

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, PLANNING & TOURISM COMMITTEE

Mufi Hannemann, Chair John Henry Felix, Vice-Chair Donna Mercado Kim, Member Rene Mansho, Member Jon Yoshimura, Member

NOTICE

THERE SHALL BE A MEETING OF THE SISTER CITY ADVISORY TASK FORCE

DATE:

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1997

TIME:

3:00 P.M.

PLACE:

COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING ROOM

HONOLULU HALE, SECOND FLOOR

CHAIR:

COUNCILMEMBER RENE MANSHO

AGENDA

- 1. Approval of November 12, 1996 Minutes
- 2. Approval of recommendations for revisions to current criteria
- 3. Approval of form to proposed sister cities
- 4. Committee Reports

If you have any questions or comments, contact Councilmember Rene Mansho via e-mail address at: rmansho@gold.chem.hawaii.edu

Note: The public is invited to attend this task force meeting for information. Oral testimony will not be accepted.

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CITY COUNCIL

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SISTER CITIES ADVISORY TASK FORCE MEETING COUNCIL COMMITTEE ROOM FEBRUARY 18, 1997

MINUTES

I. Meeting called to order by Co-Chair Rene Mansho at 3:17 p.m.

II. ATTENDANCE

A. Committee Members:

Councilmember Rene Mansho, Co-Chair
Lynette Char, Mayor's Office, Co- Chair
Richard Bahar, DBEDT
Paul Rehob, Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii
Ronald Ushijima, Honolulu Japanese Chamber of Commerce
Kenneth Chong, Chinese Chamber of Commerce
Bill Brophy, Hawaii Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
Helen Chapin, Hawaii Pacific University
Mieko Otsuka, Circle Rainbow Air
Kimo Keawe, Aloha Festivals

B. Others in Attendance:

Rich Nono, Councilmember Mufi Hannemann Staff Michelle Kidani, Councilmember Rene Mansho Staff Bob Nakasone, City Office of Economic Development

III. MINUTES of November 12, 1996 were approved with correction on page 1, item #1, second line to correct "one city per county" to "one city per country".

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IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. The City Council discontinued the Committee on Intergovernmental Relations in December, 1996.
- B. The Committee on Economic Development, Planning and Tourism was newly formed in December, 1996, and the Sister Cities Advisory Task Force will be under this committee.
- C. Sister Cities International (SCI)

 Lynette Char was able to connect with Alexander from SCI to answer questions of concerns for the task force.

Discussion followed concerning the rules and regulations in the SCI policy:

The SCI allows only one sister city per country. There is a problem with Honolulu's sister city relationships because there are four cities from Philippines who are affiliated with Honolulu. However, any sister city entering the sister city relationship prior to 1990 is intact or "grandfathered in". Any sister city entering after 1990, will have to be dropped as a sister city.

Since Honolulu has not paid any membership dues nor is a member of SCI, the one sister city per country would not apply. Honolulu does not have to adhere to SCI's rules/regulations. Kauai and Maui appear as members on the SCI list.

As of January 1997, if you are not a member of SCI you are not allowed to use the term "sister-city". The question arises as to the legality or control of the term "sister city" by SCI. The task force needs to find out the legality of the use of "sister city" under SCI's rules. Because of the legality concerns with SCI's use of "sister city" it was suggested that Honolulu use a Hawaiian name in place of "Sister City".

Information should be provided as to what kind of impact does SCI have with sister city affiliates and what can SCI do for our city.

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It was moved and seconded that the Sister Cities Advisory Task Force does not become a member of SCI; establish a new name; and adopt existing criteria for establishing sister city affiliates.

Task Force member Kimo Keawe states that the task force should abide by Resolution 91-240 which establishes guidelines for the City and County of Honolulu in establishing Sister City Relationships. Existing sister city relationships which do not provide for economic development nor meet criteria should resign and another city that can provide and meet criteria be reviewed as new sister city. Resolution can be amended to fit criteria.

D. Revisions to Current Criteria/Form for Proposed Sister Cities
Discussion and changes followed:

Section 2, item #3 - change "(1 through 10)" to read (1 to 10) with 10 being the highest level.

Section 2, item #3 - add Aquaculture with Agriculture add Trade add Technology

Add new Section 3, Cultural/Historical Ties (Kenneth Chong to work on providing guidelines)

Change Section 3 to Section 4

- E. Recommendations/Requests
 - .Need current profile of all sister cities
 - .Directory list with names/addresses of contact person
 - .Letters to sister universities/colleges with assist on networking
 - Sister Cities can participate with Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii with the "Small Business on the Move Program"
 - Letters should be mailed to advise sister cities of November, 1997 Hawaii Japan American Conference of Mayors and Chamber of Commerce Presidents
 - Request establishing an "exchange city" a city that is willing to participate with our city but does not meet the criteria as a "sister city"

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Requests for New Sister City Relationships

.Papua, New Guinea

.People's Republic of China

.Dalian

.Puerto Rico

.Vietnam

V. Committee Reports

No committee reports

VI. Discussion/Comments

Members of the task force felt that the meeting was very productive and on its way of being actively involved with sister cities relationships. There has been no interaction until this task force was formed. Establishing criteria for new sister cities is a step forward. Support Resolution 91-240 as guidelines for sister cities.

The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii (CCH) is a designated State Chamber and does not dictate to other Chamber of Commerces. Other chambers, Japanese, Chinese, Filipino, etc. have their own missions and goals. CCH supports and assists other chambers when called upon. The CCH Board of Directors have other chamber affiliates on their board. The CCH BOD has formed an executive committee to assist in providing information, exchanges, etc. Request that an affiliate mailing list be given to task force.

VI. Announcements

Next scheduled meeting March 13, 1997 at 3:00 p.m. Mayor's Conference Room.

VII. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.